

What is claimed is:

1. A portable terminal unit comprising:

a first housing having at least a main operation section;

a second housing having at least a display section;

5 wherein both of said housings are openably and closably coupled together so that said main operation section is covered with said second housing in a closed state and is exposed outside in an opened state, and said display section is exposed outside in both of the closed
10 state and the opened state,

an auxiliary operation section comprising at least one key provided on other surface than surfaces, which are opposed each other, of said both housings in the closed state,

15 wherein said auxiliary operation section is inoperative at least in the opened state except the closed state.

2. The portable terminal unit according to claim 1,
20 comprising:

a state detecting section for detecting the opened/closed state of said first housing and said second housing; and

a lock control section for rendering said auxiliary operation section operative or inoperative based on a detection result from the state detecting section.

5 3. The portable terminal unit according to claim 2,

wherein said auxiliary operation section is operative by said lock control section when said state detecting section detects that both of said housings are in the closed state, and

10 said auxiliary operation section is inoperative by said lock control section when said detecting section detects that both of said housings are in other states than the closed state.

15 4. The portable terminal unit according to claim 2,

wherein said auxiliary operation section is inoperative by said lock control section when said state detecting section detects that both of said housings are in the opened state, and

20 said auxiliary operation section is operative by said lock control section when said state detecting section detects that both of said housings are in other states than the opened state.

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5. The portable terminal unit according to claim 1, wherein said portable terminal unit is a mobile radiotelephone.

5 6. The portable terminal unit according to claim 1, wherein said portable terminal unit is a personal digital assistant.

7. A portable terminal unit comprising:

10 a first housing having at least a main operation section;

a second housing subjected to be superimposed on said first housing so as to cover said main operation section;

a coupling section for rotatablly coupling both of
15 said housings that relatively rotate around an axis extending in a superimposed direction of said two housings;

an auxiliary operation section comprising at least one key provided on other surface than surfaces, which are opposed each other, of said both housings in the closed
20 state,

wherein said at least one key is inoperative at least in a opened state except a closed state where the both of said housings relatively rotate 180° from the closed state.

8. The portable terminal unit according to claim 7,
comprising:

a state detecting section for detecting the
opened/closed state of said first housing and said second
5 housing; and

a lock control section for rendering said at least
one key operative or inoperative based on a detection
result from the state detecting section.

10 9. The portable terminal unit according to claim 8,
wherein said key or said at least one key is
operative by said lock control section when said state
detecting section detects that both of said housings are in
the closed state, and

15 said key or said at least one key is inoperative by
said lock control section when said detecting section
detects that both of said housings are in other states than
the closed state.

20 10. The portable terminal unit according to claim 8,
wherein said at least one key is inoperative by said
lock control section when said state detecting section
detects that both of said housings are in the opened state,
and

25 said at least one key is operative by said lock

control section when said state detecting section detects that both of said housings are in other states than the opened state.

5 11. The portable terminal unit according to claim 7,
wherein the second housing has a display section on its surface faced in same direction as a direction of a surface having said main operation section.

10 12. The portable terminal unit according to claim 7,
wherein said auxiliary operation section has a first key provided on a side surface of said first housing and a second key provided on a side surface of said second housing.

15 13. The portable terminal unit according to claim 7,
wherein said portable terminal unit is a mobile radiotelephone.

20 14. The portable terminal unit according to claim 7,
wherein said portable terminal unit is a personal digital assistant.